



From the Director of Victim Services

In April we launched the first **Survivor's Circle** event in collaboration with You Have the Power (YHTP), a local victim advocacy agency in Nashville at the West Police Precinct. The intent of the Survivors' Circle is to broaden Tennessee

Department of Correction (TDOC) outreach and support for victims of crime; and to educate victims/survivors and other judicial stakeholders on the Department. The event included a meet and greet of our executive team as well as presentations on topics important and relevant to crime victims.

Members of the executive team gave an overview of Prison Operations, Sentence Management, Community Supervision, Victim Compensation, Rehabilitative Services, and Victim Services. After the presentations Commissioner Parker lead an Q& A session with the guest. It proved to be a great event and we hope to hold more of these events in the future.

Tamika Dobbins

**September
2019**

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Victim Services Mission

To support victims, their families, and the laws that protect their rights, while utilizing recognized principles of offender behavioral change to help reduce the risk of repeat criminal behavior.

Victim Services Provides:

- Information regarding the status of offenders in prison with felony convictions
- Registration for victim notification
- Assistance with threats, unwanted calls/correspondence from an offender

Victim Services Activities:

- Community education programs
- Coordination with the Board of Parole, Attorney General's Office, and the Tennessee District Attorney General's Office to respond to victims' concerns
- Education to TDOC staff to increase awareness of victims' issues
- Collaboration with other victim advocates

**Refuse
To Be A Victim.®**

Victims Services Highlights.....



Betsy Fletcher is the Executive Secretary for Victim Services.

Betsy started working in State Government for Environment and Conservation Division of Air Pollution Control in 1992. She left State Government for five years in 1997.

She came back to State Government in 2002 and began working for Department of Correction. Betsy started out as Secretary to the Commissioner's staff and promoted to various positions.

Since starting with TDOC, she has always worked directly or indirectly with Victim Services. Betsy has a genuine passion for helping others and providing good customer service. These traits and losing her best school friend to a DUI/hit and run driver in 1982 is why she tries to help victims and their families in anyway she can. Her goal is to prevent even one more person from being re-victimized by the confusing avenue of the justice system across this state.



June Winter began her Tennessee State career in 1985 working for the Higher Education Commission. In 1986, she went to work for Agri-industries, which later became CET and then TRICOR. She also worked for Department of Correction and Board of Parole for several years as a secretary and administrative services assistant. Before she began work with the state, she worked 6 years for the Gallatin Housing Authority.

Early in her career, she worked for the Reserve Officer's Association in Germany. After retirement of six years she returned to work as a 120 day employee for TDOC's Victim Services in 2014. While working with so many people who are dedicated to helping victims, she developed a passion for victims also.

**“Teamwork:
Simply stated, it is less
me and more we.”**

Anonymous

Suicide Prevention & Awareness

September is Suicide Prevention Awareness Month. In the United States alone, someone dies by suicide every 12 minutes. Suicide is the second leading cause of death for youth between the ages of 10 and 24. Suicidal thoughts, much like mental health conditions, can affect anyone regardless of age, gender, or background. In fact, suicide is often the result of an untreated mental health condition. If you or someone you know is in an emergency, call The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 800-273-8255 or call 911 immediately.

Crochet for a Cause

It's not often that incarcerated individuals are given the opportunity to give back. However, some of the residents at the Women's Therapeutic Residential Center in West Tennessee State Penitentiary were given an opportunity to help victims of human trafficking and domestic violence. The residents at the center made crochet backpacks that were filled with hygiene items so that the victims of human trafficking and domestic violence will have the necessary items they need once they are rescued or leave their violent situation. It means a lot to the residents, at the Women's Therapeutic Residential Center in Henning, Tennessee, to have the opportunity to give back to those who need it most.



TDOC Central Office Monthly Stats

Telephone Calls	August
Phone calls Received/Returned	142
Parties Registered for Notifications	101
Harassment/Threats/No Contact	5
Referrals	16
Release/Parole Inquiry	29
Other	71

Notifications	August
Registration	200
Movement	114
Advance Release	311
Final Release *	121
Death	19
Other	61

Announcements



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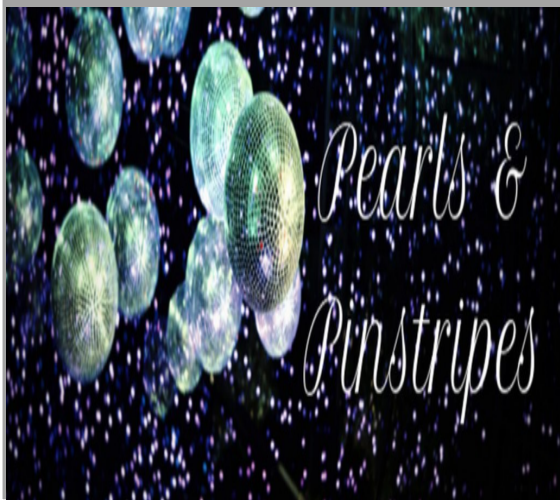
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Purple with a Purpose Day” Wednesday October 2, 2019

In honor of domestic violence victims, please wear the color “purple” and take a picture and send to Tami-ka.Dobbins@tn.gov to be shared on our social media sites and October Newsletter.



The Pearls and Pinstripes Gala is Friday, October 4, 2019 at 6:00pm at the Music City Center. This event benefits the Tennessee Coalition to end domestic and sexual violence. There will be dinner, drinks, dancing, a live and silent auction, and entertainment by Burning Las Vegas. Tickets are \$125. Attire is festive or

“MEET US AT THE BRIDGE”

Host:

Nashville Coalition against Domestic Violence

Saturday October 5, 2019

10:00 am

John Seigenthaler Pedestrian Bridge

Please join us at our annual event to honor those in the Nashville community who have lost their lives as well as those who give their time and talents to combat domestic violence.



Tennessee Department of Correction

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